

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

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O P 271617Z JUN 75 ZFG
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3567
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMDH BASSY VIENNA PRIORITY 3057

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 2016

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - P A R A F O U R

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, HU (ROCKEFELLER, NELSON)
SUBJ: VACATION TRAVEL OF MRS. ROCKEFELLER

REF: STATE 150412; BUDAPEST 1996

LONDON PLEASE PASS VICE PRESIDENT'S PARTY

1. IN AFTERNOON MEETING JUNE 27, AMB. VARKONYI REQUESTED MCAULIFFE TO ADVISE WASHINGTON AND VICE PRESIDENT AND MRS. ROCKEFELLER THAT "HIGHEST AUTHORITIES" IN HUNGARY HONORED AND DELIGHTED THAT MRS. ROCKEFELLER AND HER DAUGHTERS PLANNING SHORT, PRIVATE VACATION IN BUDAPEST. THEY WILL FULLY RESPECT HER WISHES FOR PRIVACY AND FEEL QUITE CERTAIN THAT MANAGEMENT AND STAFF GELLERT HOTEL AND HUNGARIAN NEWS MEDIA WILL SHOW EQUAL UNDERSTANDING OF HER WISHES.
2. VARKONYI SAID HIS REMARKS CONSTITUTED OFFICIAL RESPONSE OF HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT AND THAT FONOFF REQUESTING AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST TO CONVEY THEM BECAUSE AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE ESTERGALYOS HAD NOT YET HAD OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT HIS CREDENTIALS IN WASHINGTON.

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3. VARKONYI ALSO SAID:

A) BOTH HUNGARIAN EMBASSY LONDON AND HUNGARIAN EMBASSY VIENNA HAVE RECEIVED AUTHORITY ISSUE VISAS TO PERSONS LISTED PARA 4, STATE 150412.

B) APPROPRIATE HUNGARIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE CONFIRMED OVERFLIGHT AND LANDING CLEARANCES FOR AIRCRAFT. (ON OWN INITIATIVE VARKONYI SUGGESTED THAT MEMBERS OF CREW OBTAIN VISAS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL BUDAPEST. SEE PARA 5 BUDAPEST 1996).

4. AMBASSADOR VARKONYI WENT ON TO SAY THAT, WHILE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT DID NOT WISH IN ANY WAY TO INTRUDE ON MRS. ROCKEFELLER'S PERSONAL PLANS OR TRAVEL PROGRAM, IT DID WISH TO RENDER EVERY ASSISTANCE TO MAKE HER VISIT PLEASURABLE AND TO INDUCE HER TO COME BACK AGAIN. THUS THEY WOULD LIKE OFFER USE OF VIP ROOM AT AIRPORT AND WOULD FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE IF FONOFF PROTOCOL OFFICER ON HAND TO FACILITATE ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF MRS. ROCKEFELLER AND HER PARTY. IF MRS. ROCKEFELLER'S INTEREST RUN TO SIGHTSEEING AT PARLIAMENT BUILDING, MUSEUMS, OR TIHANY ABBEY (NEAR LAKE BALATON); OR TO SHOPPING (HEREND CHINA OR KLARA ROTHSCHILD BOUTIQUE), HUNGARIAN AUTHORITIES ANXIOUS TO FURNISH UNOBTRUSIVE ASSISTANCE AND POSSIBLY PROVIDE ACCESS WHICH AMERICAN EXPRESS MIGHT HAVE DIFFICULTY ARRANGING.

5. MCAULIFFE EXPRESSED DEEP THANKS FOR THESE OFFERS AND SAID USE OF AIRPORT VIP LOUNGE SEEMED DESIRABLE IN ORDER AVOID TOURIST CROWDS THUS ENHANCING SECURITY AND DIMINISHING LIKELIHOOD PUBLICITY. HOWEVER, HE SAID HE WOULD SEEK INSTRUCTIONS ON ALL POINTS VARKONYI HAD RAISED.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE INSTRUCT.
MCAULIFFE

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